



CITY OF ATLANTA

MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS

RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

REOPENING PHASES

The Advisory Council on Reopening Atlanta recommended that the Mayor supplement the State's reopening criteria with additional, voluntary guidelines. These guidelines are organized into phases that reflect Federal guidelines and reinforce the principles and goals outlined in the Advisory Council's report. The phases, voluntary guidelines, and metrics to determine when to move between phases are included below.

Based on the current available data, Atlanta is in Phase 2.

The City continues to review several additional key metrics, including data for the Atlanta metro area. All data used herein are not owned or maintained by the City of Atlanta. Data have been sourced from Fulton County Board of Public Health (FCBOH) and the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA). Fulton County-wide data are used as a proxy for City of Atlanta jurisdiction to monitor each gateway metric. Data will be updated based on recommendations from local, state, and federal public health experts, including FCBOH, AFCEMA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The City of Atlanta does not claim responsibility for the accuracy of the source data.

The City of Atlanta will continue to update our COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines and Metrics. The metrics are now classified as gatekeeping and monitored. Gatekeeping metrics are used to determine our advancement through the reopening phases. Monitored metrics are observed to provide general updates about the pandemic. The City of Atlanta has consulted with public health experts and the Advisory Council on the latest updates to these guidelines.



REOPENING PHASES OVERVIEW:

PHASE 1: **STAY AT HOME** (RED ZONE)

- ✓ Essential business and city services only

PHASE 2: **EASING** (YELLOW ZONE)

- ✓ Limited industries resume operations with severe restrictions

PHASE 3: **MAINTAIN** (GREEN ZONE)

- ✓ Additional industries resume operations with restrictions and capacity limitations

PHASE 4: **RECOVERY** (GREEN ZONE)

- ✓ Additional industries resume operations with guidance

PHASE 5: **“NEW NORMAL”** (BLUE ZONE)

- ✓ Non-essential City facilities open with precautions

The City will monitor the data for potential spikes and consult with public health professionals to determine the need to adjust any metrics, targets, trends, or transitions to between phases.

GATEKEEPING METRICS: METRICS USED TO DETERMINE THE ADVANCEMENT THROUGH THE REOPENING PHASES

Disease Spread Indicators Are Monitored Over 10 Days

New COVID Cases

Red Zone: *Cases average above 250*

Yellow Zone: *Cases average between 75-249*

Green Zone: *Cases average between 20-75*

Blue Zone: *Cases average below 20*

COVID Hospitalizations

Red Zone: *Hospitalizations average above 350*

Yellow Zone: *Hospitalizations average between 201-349*

Green Zone: *Hospitalizations average between 50-200*

Blue Zone: *Cases average below 50*

Percent of Positive COVID Tests

Red Zone: *Diagnostic test positivity above 10%*

Yellow Zone: *Diagnostic test positivity between 5.1-10%*

Green Zone: *Diagnostic test positivity between 1-5%*

Blue Zone: *Diagnostic test positivity below 1%*

METRICS MONITORED FOR GENERAL UPDATES ON THE PANDEMIC

Hospital Capacity Indicators are Monitored Daily

Hospital Bed Availability *Pre-COVID Average is 22.5%*

Hospital CCU Bed Availability *Pre-COVID Average is 25%*

Testing Capacity Indicators are Monitored Daily

County standards: *> 2,857 tests per day*

Vaccination Tracking Indicators are Monitored Daily

Actual Number and Percentage of Population Fully Vaccinated

PHASE 1: **STAY AT HOME** (RED ZONE)

GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUALS

- ✓ Stay home except for essential trips
- ✓ Wearing a face mask in public is a [mandate](#)
- ✓ Frequent hand washing
- ✓ Social distancing followed and enforced where practical

BUSINESSES/ NON-PROFITS

- ✓ To-go and curbside pickups from restaurants and retail establishments
- ✓ Continue practicing teleworking
- ✓ Frequent cleaning of public and high touch areas

CITY GOVERNMENT

- ✓ Non-essential City facilities remain closed
- ✓ Moratorium on special event applications
- ✓ Establish and continue communication with local and State authorities to monitor public health metrics

GATEKEEPING METRICS

➤ **TRANSITION TO PHASE 2 (YELLOW ZONE)** after reaching Yellow Zone gatekeeping targets and sustaining each target over 10 days (i.e. COVID cases, hospitalizations, and positive test results).

YELLOW ZONE GATEKEEPING TARGETS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ **New COVID Cases:** Cases average between 75-249
- ✓ **COVID Hospitalizations:** Hospitalizations average result between 201- 349
- ✓ **Percent of Positive COVID Tests:** Diagnostic test positivity result between 5.1-10%

PHASE 2: **EASING** (YELLOW ZONE)

GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUALS

- ✓ Stay home except for essential trips
- ✓ Wearing a face mask in public is a [mandate](#)
- ✓ Frequent hand washing
- ✓ Social distancing
- ✓ ***Avoid crowds and indoors spaces that do not offer fresh air from the outdoors. Limit the number of people in small gatherings to allow people to remain at least 6 feet apart*** ([CDC Guidance](#))

BUSINESSES/ NON-PROFITS

- ✓ To-go and curbside pickups from restaurants and retail establishments
- ✓ Continue practicing teleworking
- ✓ Frequent cleaning of public and high touch areas

CITY GOVERNMENT

- ✓ Non-essential City facilities remain closed
- ✓ ***City may begin to accept special event applications subject to COVID safety requirements***
- ✓ Continue communication with local and State authorities to monitor public health metrics

GATEKEEPING METRICS

➤ **TRANSITION TO PHASE 3 (GREEN ZONE)** after reaching Green Zone gatekeeping targets and sustaining each target over 10 days (i.e. COVID cases, hospitalizations, and positive test results).

GREEN ZONE GATEKEEPING TARGETS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ **New COVID Cases:** Cases average between 20-75
- ✓ **COVID Hospitalizations:** Hospitalizations average result between 50-200
- ✓ **Percent of Positive COVID Tests:** Diagnostic test positivity result between 1- 5%

➤ **Revert to Phase 1 (RED ZONE)** after reaching the Red Zone and there is a sustained (10 Day) increase in new COVID cases, hospitalizations, and/or positive test results. May revert Phase 1 on an accelerated timeline based on the advisement and input of public health professionals to protect the health and safety of Atlantans.

PHASE 3: MAINTAIN (GREEN ZONE)

GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUALS

- ✓ **Limited trips outside; vulnerable populations should continue to stay home**
- ✓ Wearing a face mask in public is a [mandate](#)
- ✓ Frequent hand washing
- ✓ Social distancing

BUSINESSES/ NON-PROFITS

- ✓ Limited occupancy in food and retail establishments to accommodate social distancing
- ✓ Continue practicing teleworking where feasible.
- ✓ Frequent cleaning of public and high touch areas
- ✓ **Small gatherings with social distancing**

CITY GOVERNMENT

- ✓ Non-essential City facilities remain closed to the public
- ✓ City continues to accept special event applications subject to COVID safety requirements
- ✓ Continue communication with local and State authorities to monitor public health metrics

GATEKEEPING METRICS

➤ **TRANSITION TO PHASE 4 (GREEN ZONE)** after sustaining Green Zone gatekeeping targets over 10 days (i.e. COVID cases, hospitalizations, and positive test results).

GREEN ZONE GATEKEEPING TARGETS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ **New COVID Cases:** Cases average between 20-75
- ✓ **COVID Hospitalizations:** Hospitalizations average result between 50-200
- ✓ **Percent of Positive COVID Tests:** Diagnostic test positivity result between 1-5%

⬅ **REVERT TO PHASE 2 (YELLOW ZONE)** after reaching the Yellow Zone and there is a sustained (10 Day) increase in new COVID cases, hospitalizations, and/or positive test results.

PHASE 4: RECOVERY (GREEN ZONE)

GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUALS

- ✓ Limited trips outside
- ✓ Wearing a face mask in public is a [mandate](#)
- ✓ Frequent hand washing
- ✓ Social distancing

BUSINESSES/ NON-PROFITS

- ✓ Increased occupancy in food and retail establishments, with social distancing and other protective measures
- ✓ *Begin phasing in non-essential workers to return to work with safety precautions, including social distancing, temperature checks, and frequent cleaning as appropriate*
- ✓ *Medium gatherings with social distancing*
- ✓ Frequent cleaning of public and high touch areas

CITY GOVERNMENT

- ✓ *Some essential and non-essential City facilities and programs open with safety precautions*
- ✓ Workers that cannot complete their functions remotely may begin to return to work, with appropriate safety precautions and operational changes
- ✓ City continues to accept special event applications subject to COVID safety requirements
- ✓ Continue communication with local and State authorities to monitor public health metrics

GATEKEEPING METRICS

➤ **TRANSITION TO PHASE 5 (BLUE ZONE)** after sustaining Blue Zone gatekeeping targets over 10 days (i.e. COVID cases, hospitalizations, and positive test results).

BLUE ZONE TARGETS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ **New COVID Cases:** Cases average below 20
- ✓ **COVID Hospitalizations:** Hospitalizations average result below 50
- ✓ **Percent of Positive COVID Tests:** Diagnostic test positivity result below 1%

◀ **REVERT TO PHASE 3 (GREEN ZONE)** after there is a sustained (10 Day) increase in new COVID cases, hospitalizations, and/or positive test results.

PHASE 5: **NEW NORMAL** (BLUE ZONE)

GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES/ NON-PROFITS

- ✓ Frequent hand washing
- ✓ Frequent cleaning of public and high touch areas
- ✓ Wearing a face mask in public is recommended
- ✓ *Larger gatherings and live events, with appropriate social distancing and safety precautions*

CITY GOVERNMENT

- ✓ *Non-essential City facilities open with safety precautions and routine cleaning*
- ✓ City continues to accept special event applications subject to COVID safety requirements

GATEKEEPING METRICS

BLUE ZONE GATEKEEPING TARGETS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ **New COVID Cases:** Cases average below 20
- ✓ **COVID Hospitalizations:** Hospitalizations average result below 50
- ✓ **Percent of Positive COVID Tests:** Diagnostic test positivity result below 1%
- **REVERT TO PHASE 4 (GREEN ZONE)** after reaching the Green Zone and there is a sustained (10 Day) increase in new COVID cases, hospitalizations, and/or positive test results.

While the City has not established any additional Phases beyond this New Normal, consideration will be given to CDC and public health guidance available at the time, the timeline and potential for broad availability of a vaccine, and any other new factors that may arise before progressing through any additional reopening measures.